

## CHAPTER IX

### CLERGYMEN WHO MINISTERED TO THE FAITHFUL AT FORT LEAVENWORTH

**A** HISTORY of divine service at Fort Leavenworth would not be complete without an account of the Catholic congregation.

As already told this field was occupied by Catholic missionaries almost from the date of the post's establishment. Most of the church's post history, however, was made during the past forty years.

For many years succeeding the missionary labors of Father Quickenborne, Fort Leavenworth was frequently visited by Jesuit fathers, but not until 1869 was one of their number regularly assigned to attend to the spiritual wants of its officers, soldiers and civilian employees.

Through the courtesy of President Rogers of St. Louis University, founded by Father Quickenborne, the author is enabled to present a list of the Jesuit missionaries who visited here in an early day. It is as follows:

Charles Van Quickenborne, 35, 36.

Christian Hoecken, 35, 36, 37, 39, 41, 42, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49.

Adrian Hoecken, 42.

Felix Verreydt, 37, 41, 42, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48.

Anthony Eyesvogel, 39, 40, 44.

Herman Aelen, 39, 40, 41, 42.

Nicholas Point at Westport, 40.

Francis Xavier DeCoen, 45.

John F. Diels, (not yet ordained priest) 45, 46.

Charles Truyens, 47.

Maurice Galliard, 48, 49.

John Baptist Duerink, 49.

The last named priest was a cousin of Father DeSmet. He was drowned in the Missouri river on one of his excursions. There was a general impression at the time that his death was due to foul work of thieves. His body was never recovered.

President James McCabe, S.J.,\* of St. Mary's College, St. Mary's, Kansas, responding to inquiries concerning the labors of missionaries in this field, furnishes the following:

"He, Father Quickenborne, was succeeded on the mission among the Kickapoos by Father Felix L. Verreydt, S.J., and Christian Hoecken, S.J. In January, 1838, Fr. Hoecken, on receiving an invitation from the chief of a band of Christian Pottawatomies, lately established on the Osage river, in Linn county, Kansas, went to them; and from this visit and from friendly intercourse may be traced the causes which at an early date brought into existence St. Mary's College. The mission among the Kickapoos was abandoned, and the fathers established their base among the Pottawatomies, first at Sugar Creek, in Linn county, and afterwards at St. Mary's, to which point the Pottawatomies were transferred by the government in 1846-48. Fr. Verreydt was indefatigable in visiting all stations in eastern Kansas and western Missouri where white settlers were to be found.

"Right Rev. John B. Miede,† S.J., was conse-

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\*Society of Jesus. The priests who belong to this Society are known as "Jesuits."

† John Baptiste Miede was born in Chevron, Savoy, September 18, 1815. He was consecrated Bishop of Meseena May 24, 1815, and raised to the dignity of Vicar Apostolic over the country inhabited by the Indians lying between the Rockies and the western boundary of civilization. He arrived at St. Mary's Mission soon after his elevation and resided there un-

crated March 25, 1851, and established himself at St. Mary's Mission. He remained at St. Mary's till 1855, when he removed to Leavenworth. The following Jesuit fathers were stationed at Leavenworth with Bishop Miede:

- 1858-1859—Rev. James M. Converse, S. J.
- 1862-1865—Rev. Francis Xavier DeCoen, S. J.
- 1865-1866—Revs. Aloysius Laigneil, S. J., and Paul M. Ponziglioni, S. J.
- 1866-1867—Revs. Aloysius Laigneil, S. J., and John I. Coglin, S. J.
- 1868-1870—Revs. Aloysius Laigneil, S. J., and Peter J. de Meester, S. J.
- 1870-1871—Revs. Aloosius Laigneil, S. J., and Michael J. Corbett, S. J.
- 1871-1872—Revs. Ignatius Panken, S. J., and Michael J. Corbett, S. J.
- 1872-1873—Rev. Ignatius Panken, S. J.
- 1873-1874—Rev. John Schultz, S. J.

“Rev. Father Schultz was the last of the Jesuit Fathers who resided at Leavenworth. In 1874 Bishop Miede resigned and was succeeded to the bishopric of Leavenworth by Rt. Rev. Louis M. Fink,\* D. D., O. S. B. §

til 1855, when he established himself at Leavenworth. In the years following under his episcopate the church began to prosper, and priests of the Jesuit Order came from all directions to his aid. To his energy and intermittent hard labor is due the erection of the stately cathedral at Leavenworth. He resigned his episcopate in 1874 and for a time made his home at the University of St. Louis. Later he was transferred to Woodstock, Md., and after founding a college in Detroit, Mich., in 1877, returned to the Maryland convent and there passed away July 20, 1884.

\* Bishop Louis Maria Fink, of Leavenworth, was born in Triftersburg, Bavaria, in 1834. He came to the United States in 1852, and finishing his theological studies in 1857, was then ordained a priest. At Covington, Ky., he established a convent of the St. Benedictine Nuns and built a church. He then went to Chicago as pastor of St. Joseph's church, and his

"I have obtained the names given above from the official records of the Missouri Province, as well as the dates of the residence of the several fathers at Leavenworth."

For a number of years Bishop Miede gave personal attention to Fort Leavenworth, frequently saying mass. So important a point did he regard the post that in 1869 he named Father Laigneil as the first pastor of the Mission.

The following is a list of the clergymen who succeeded him and the period which they served at Fort Leavenworth:

- 1871-1873—Rev. Ignatius Pankin, S. J.
- 1873-1874—Rev. John Schultz, S. J.
- 1874-1876—Rev. Ambrose Butler, S. J.
- 1876-1879—Rev. James O'Reilly.
- 1879 ———Rev. Gregory Kelly.
- 1879-1883—Rev. Thomas Downey.
- 1883-1884—Rev. John Hurley.
- 1884-1892—Rev. T. H. Kinsella.
- 1892-1895—Rev. Alexander Jennings.
- 1895-1905—Rev. T. J. McCaul.
- 1905-1906—Rev. William Ospital, O.S.B.
- 1906 to date Rev. J. M. Dougherty, O.S.B.

missionary labors were so successful that the church could not contain the numbers who came to hear him; whereupon he built a new and costly church, with schools attached to it. He was next appointed prior of the Benedictine Monastery at Atchison, Kansas, and also vicar-general of the vicar-apostolate of Kansas. In 1871 he became coadjutor bishop and was transferred to the newly erected see at Leavenworth in 1877. Under his care the number of his co-religionists in the diocese grew from 35,000 to 80,000. He died March 18, 1904.

Upon the demise of Bishop Fink, Bishop Lillie became his successor. Since then Bishop Lillie has been appointed Coadjutor Bishop to Archbishop Hogan of Kansas City, Mo. Right Rev. Bishop John D. Ward, for a number of years pastor of the Leavenworth Cathedral succeeded Bishop Lillie in 1910.

§ Order of St. Benedictine.



REVEREND AMBROSE BUTLER †

REVEREND JAMES O'REILLY †

RIGHT REVEREND JOHN B. MIEGE †

REVEREND JOHN HURLEY †

REVEREND THOMAS DOWNEY



## CHAPTER X

### WHAT LED TO CONSTRUCTION OF FIRST CHURCH AND DIFFICULTIES UNDER WHICH ACCOMPLISHED

**I**T was not until 1870 that steps were taken to secure a building in the post, dedicated exclusively to Catholic service. For some years prior thereto a one-story frame building which had been occupied by a troop of the Seventh Cavalry, was used for the purpose. Commenting upon the use of this building, General Michael R. Morgan, at the time Chief Commissary of Subsistence of the Department of the Missouri, stationed at the post, in an official communication to higher authorities seeking relief from then existing conditions with reference to the lack of appropriate accommodations for Catholic service, said:

“This temporary chapel was also used by the regimental band at the post for practice. It was found that the band spilled their beer over the altar and that they entered the recess back of the altar used as a sacristy and disturbed what they found there. It was thought that this could easiest be mended by the Catholics putting up their own church edifice.”

The building of a Catholic chapel originated with army officers. Their influence was brought to bear on the bishop to have him make application for permission to erect such a building.

The suggestion was heartily endorsed by Father Panken, who prevailed upon Bishop Miede to apply to the Secretary of War for a building site. The bishop realized something should be done and accordingly addressed the following communication to that official:

LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS

TO HIS EXCELLENCY,

December 10, 1870.

*The Secretary of War,**Washington, D. C.*

SIR:

I beg leave to expose to your excellency that there is a considerable number of Roman Catholics at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, to whom I consider it my duty to give the facilities which all Christian denominations give to their members.

Thus far it has not been possible to obtain a place or chapel exclusively dedicated to Catholic worship, which is a great inconvenience, not only to the clergyman who appoints days to officiate at the fort, but also to the members of the church. To obviate all difficulties, I take the liberty to ask that a piece of ground at or near the fort be set apart, and that the buildings erected thereon be for the exclusive use of Roman Catholic worship.

Hoping that my petition will be favorably considered, I remain, of your excellency, the humble, obedient servant,

(Signed)

JOHN B. MIEGE,

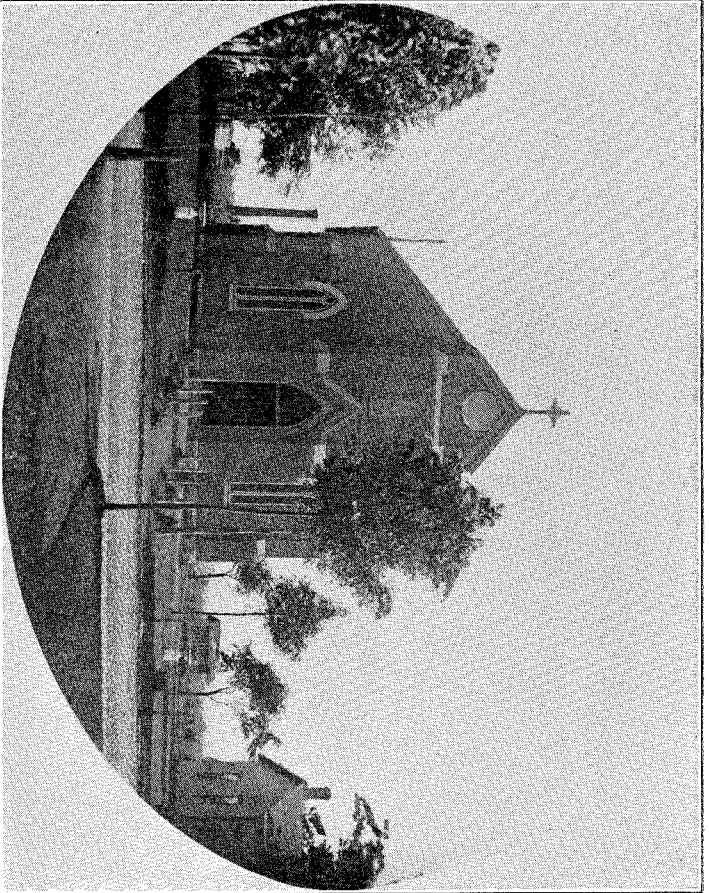
*Bishop of Kansas.*

General Pope endorsed the proposition and the war department gave its consent. A board of officers was appointed to select a site. This done, work was energetically begun collecting funds by General Morgan and Ordnance Sergeant Cornelius Kelly.\* In a few months this officer and Sergeant Kelly turned into the building fund over \$3,000 which together with other contributions and much aid from

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\*Cornelius Kelly was Ordnance Sergeant at the post from 1868 to 1886, at which time he was retired, completing thirty-four years active service. He is now living in Leavenworth. His service, before appointment as ordnance sergeant in 1861 was in the artillery.





FIRST CATHOLIC CHURCH, NOW UNION HALL. PAROCHIAL SCHOOL TO RIGHT



the quartermaster's department, enabled the church authorities to start the work of construction. The corner stone was laid in the fall of 1871. After much delay and a hard struggle the building was placed under roof.

Father Schultz succeeded Father Pankin, who, in a short time, was followed by Father Butler.\* He is said to have displayed remarkable administrative ability, collecting, within four months, the sum of \$1,300. The church was plastered and the floor laid during his administration.

Rev. James O'Reilly, subsequently bishop-elect of Wichita, succeeded Father Butler. He remained pastor about five years in which time the church was virtually relieved of all indebtedness. He collected from the soldiers on successive pay days the large sum of \$1,000. This good father remarked before his death that the task was the hardest one of his life, and that there was no authority on earth that could induce him to undertake the like again.

Owing to a very considerable reduction in the number of civilian employees at the post the bishop became concerned as to how to meet the heavy obligations incurred, because of a like decrease in the size of the congregation. It was here the self-sacrifice and fine executive ability of Father O'Reilly in the administration of church temporalities, first plainly showed themselves. Notwithstanding the paucity to which the congregation was reduced, he not only paid off the remaining church indebtedness within the period of his Fort Leavenworth pastorate, but added many improvements, such as an

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\*The Rev. Father Ambrose Butler was educated in Dublin; was a distinguished scholar and author and a fluent speaker. His last years were spent in St. Louis, where he established St. Cronin's Parish. He also founded a colony in Kansas now called Blaine.

altar, at a cost of nearly \$500, communion rail, confessionals, and pews. Later Father O'Reilly became pastor of the church at Topeka, followed by his appointment as bishop of the newly created diocese of Wichita, but before being able to take charge of his episcopate he was called to answer the summons from on High.

It was under such difficulties the church was finally completed. Upon dedication it was named "St. Ignatius Chapel" in honor of Ignatius de Loyola, the Soldier-Saint, who founded the "Society of Jesus"\*

The citizens of Leavenworth, irrespective of religious faith, were liberal contributors. When completed, more than ten thousand dollars had been expended on the church.

The next in succession was Rev. Gregory Kelly, a fine speaker and a young man of affable manners. Father Kelly forwarded the work and did many things to complete the task began in 1871.

Rev. Father Thomas Downey, one of the many popular clergymen known in this section, and now chaplain of St Mary's Academy, south of the city, came next in succession—1879-83. Like those preceding him, he worked willingly and unceasingly to make the parish worthy of the name and post. He gave special attention to the inmates of the U. S. Military Prison, ministering to those of his faith.

Father John Hurley, a son of Leavenworth, followed Father Downey. This young man left the parish in a flourishing condition financially.

Rev. Father Kinsella succeeded Father Hurley

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\* In the fall of 1894 the 20th Infantry arrived here from Montana. With it came a number of "garrisons" of the Army and Navy Union, which obtained permission to hold their meetings in this building. The name of Union Hall was given it.

to the Fort Leavenworth charge and became its first resident priest. Up to this time the pastors having in charge the Fort mission made their home in the rectory of the Leavenworth cathedral, but Bishop Fink concluded that the time had arrived when the pastor at Fort Leavenworth should be required to "shift" for himself.

If Father Kinsella could be induced to write of his struggles at Fort Leavenworth during the seven and one-half years of his pastorate it would prove a chapter intensely interesting to those not familiar with the hardships and privations endured by this faithful priest. The author happened to know Father Kinsella intimately during all the years of his residence at the post, a friendship which continues to this day, and it gives sincere pleasure to make of record here that better things have come to him, a just reward for unceasing effort to fulfill every obligation to serve his Master.

Father Kinsella was ordained in the cathedral at Leavenworth by Bishop Fink, July 17, 1884, and on August 12, the same year, assigned to the Fort Leavenworth mission, the bishop remarking at the time, "This is a mission I would not give to everybody." Whether this view was meant in a Pickwickian sense, or, that it came from him as a result of conviction, does not matter at this late day, but Father Kinsella, considering the struggles of those years to "keep his head above water", must have often, in moments of meditation, perhaps hours and days, asked himself, "If this was the bishop's best, what may be his worst?" At any rate, the good priest obeyed, as becomes a true Christian soldier.

The Fort Leavenworth mission included Kickapoo township, Delaware township including the town of Lansing, the State Penitentiary, the U. S. Mili-

tary Prison, the County Poor House and Saint John's Hospital, with an occasional opportunity to a little extra work in and around the cathedral. Father Kinsella held services in three churches and four chapels during the month; in all seven places had to be attended, and in each place a different class of people had to be addressed and their spiritual wants provided for. There was then no salary attached to any of these appointments. The people attending the Fort church, however, were exceeding kind to their pastor. Kickapoo contributed about \$150 or \$200 a year, and Delaware about \$100. The balance, about \$300, was given by the Fort congregation. These amounts came at irregular intervals, often falling short of the usual sums but, on the whole, Father Kinsella's condition was an improvement on that of his predecessors. It gives one some idea of the peculiar conditions then existing, and of the unrequited and laborious work done by Catholic priests in these parts in early days. Relief came to Father Kinsella at last in a division of territory by taking from him all the missions and institutions south of the city, leaving for him the post, military Prison and Kickapoo. He took up quarters at Fort Leavenworth where, unknown, unsheltered and unprovided for by the government, he eked out an existence replete with many amusing incidents.

The then post trader, Major W. H. Keeling,\* through the intervention of faithful Sergeant Kelly,

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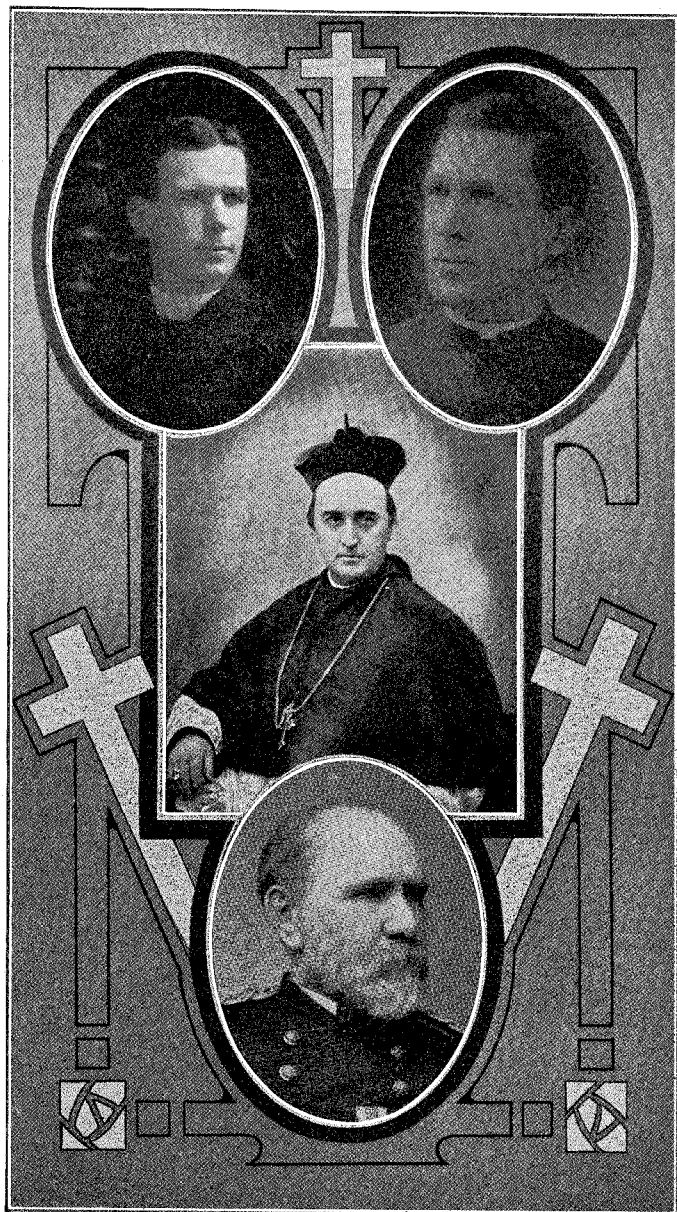
\*Major W. H. Keeling, a former officer of the Thirteenth U. S. Infantry, Post Trader. Upon completion of a new post hospital in 1882, the old was turned into a hotel for the use of student officers of the Infantry and Cavalry School, and managed by Major Keeling. This building stood then where is now the Army Service Schools Mess in rear of Schofield and Otis halls. The hotel was run for about three years, after which the building was named "Hancock Hall" and assigned as quarters for bachelor officers.

provided him with board at \$15 per month and permitted him to occupy a room in the hotel when not otherwise in use. This latter privilege was of brief duration owing to a large influx of officers, both on account of the annual department, division and army rifle contests, and the bi-annual arrival of student officers to the Infantry and Cavalry School. This made him almost shelterless if not entirely homeless. For the first winter he found a barber's chair and placed it in the little vestry back of the chapel thus enjoying an improvised folding bed through which he made the discovery that a night spent in a barber's chair is twenty-four hours long in summer and forty-eight in winter. The next year Captain Henry Seaton, 4th U. S. Infantry, found him one evening in a closet under a stair-way of the hotel-annex, sitting on a cot holding a book in one hand and a lamp in the other. The officer, who was of a very distinguished Catholic family, protested in a tone of surprise and demanded that he vacate at once and come to his quarters where everything would be as it should for a priest. This act of kindness Father Kinsella treasures in memory as the most blessed deed that ever came to him, as it saved him from the dangers of a second winter as unprovided as the former one. In the meantime changes took place in the personnel of the post and the third winter found the old conditions revived, no shelter, but only the little vestry which had cracks in the walls and shaky windows. The young priest felt there was danger in attempting to live through another winter in such a place and after much deliberation concluded to call upon the bishop to explain matters and to seek a return to the cathedral rectory. The bishop did not grant his request, but, on the contrary, ordered him to build on another

room to the vestry and thus make himself comfortable at the post. Colonel Ruger, the post commander, objected to such a proposed addition without authority.







REV. M. J. DOUGHERTY

REV. THOMAS H. KINSELLA

RIGHT REVEREND LOUIS MARIA FINK †

BRIGADIER-GENERAL M. R. MORGAN †

## CHAPTER XI

### FIRST CHURCH BUILDING SOLD AND NEW SITE SECURED FOR LARGER EDIFICE

**W**HEN in 1870 the Secretary of War permitted the use of a site for a Catholic church, it was supposed that the ground selected would not interfere with the location of public buildings in the future. This view appears not to have been prophetic. Denying Father Kinsella permission to construct an additional room to the church rectory opened up correspondence which resulted in the purchase of the church property and a grant to select a more suitable site for a new church. The correspondence follows:

FORT LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS,

*September 15, 1885.*

REV. T. H. KINSELLA,

*Fort Leavenworth, Kansas.*

REVEREND SIR:—Replying to your letter of the 7th ultimo, addressed to the Honorable Secretary of War asking authority to build a rectory at this post, I have the honor to inform you that the request has been disapproved by the Secretary of War—"the ground occupied by the church and the frame school house being required for military purposes."

I have been directed to ascertain upon what terms the church building may be purchased, also the school building may be bought or its removal effected. Will you please inform me as soon as may conveniently be, as to the questions stated.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

(Signed)

THOS. H. RUGER,

*Colonel, 18th Infantry,*

*Commanding Post.*

This letter was placed in the hands of Bishop Fink under whose instructions Father Kinsella sent Colonel Ruger the following reply:

FORT LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS

*September 29, 1885.*

THOS. H. RUGER,  
*Colonel 18th Infantry,*  
*Commanding Post.*

DEAR SIR:—Having called upon the Right Rev. Bishop in regard to the request of the Hon. Secretary of War, expressed in your note of the 15th inst., I found his Lordship willing to do what ever is good for the Fort, as well as for the convenience of its present authorities.

The Secretary of War may communicate with him therefore, in regard to the church as also the purchase or removal of the school house at Fort Leavenworth. If I remember rightly, the Bishop mentioned two ways in which the question can be settled agreeably to all parties. The first was, that the government take the matter in hand and erect other buildings in every respect like the present ones, the location being acceptable to us. The second, that the government portion off a plat of ground, 200 feet square, in a location suited to the wants of the people, on which the bishop could build church, school and parsonage with the money received for the present building.

He seems to consider the question of value of small importance in comparison with the fact that a Catholic church is necessary for the spiritual welfare of his people connected with the post, prison and arsenal—each so extensive, and the whole a city in itself. It seems very proper, therefore, that this matter should be viewed in a broad light, not only be-

cause it is Fort Leavenworth that is in question, but more especially, because what has been done thus far, by the Catholic people of the Fort, has been done with the sanction of the government, and the Right Rev. Bishop does not, I think, feel himself free to barter away what belongs to the community at large, bound as he is, by most sacred engagements, to transmit this, its gift to posterity.

I am, dear Colonel, yours respectfully,

(Signed) T. H. KINSELLA,  
Rector.

HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY  
ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE

*Washington, December 26, 1886.*

TO THE COMMANDING GENERAL,  
*Commanding Department of the Missouri,  
Fort Leavenworth, Kansas.*

(Through Headquarters Division of the Missouri.)

SIR:—Referring to an endorsement of the 23d of October last, forwarding correspondence in regard to the occupation of the military reservation of Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, by a Roman Catholic Church, I am directed by the lieutenant general commanding the army to inform you that the Secretary of War authorized the purchase of the Catholic building in question at a cost not to exceed eleven thousand (\$11,000) dollars and the selection of a new site by the church authorities.

The selection of this site shall be subject to the approval of the war department, and with the understanding that the government shall not, under any circumstances, be required or expected to purchase any structures that may be erected thereon.

The lieutenant general desires to request the

church authorities to make application for the new site, under the conditions herein recited.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

(Signed)

R. C. DRUM,

*Adjutant-General.*

The terms offered in the above were accepted by the Roman Catholic church authorities and application was at once made for a new site and the privilege to construct thereon a church building.

A lease was granted by the Secretary of War in the following terms:

“The Right Reverend Louis M. Fink, as Roman Catholic bishop of the diocese of Leavenworth and successors, bishops of said diocese, are hereby granted a license, revocable at will by the Secretary of War, to erect and construct or cause to be constructed, for the use of the Roman Catholic church at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, on a tract or lot of land two hundred feet square, being part of the United States military reservation at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, and situated in, and being the south-east corner of the vacant lot which lies just to the south of the post hospital in said reservation, and being bounded on the east by McClellan avenue, and on the south by Pope Avenue, a church edifice, 45 by 95 feet in dimensions for the purpose of divine worship, according to the rites of said church, and a school house 25 by 50 feet in dimensions, and no other building or buildings whatsoever (the former license granted by the Secretary of War, January 24, 1878, to the said Louis M. Fink, being hereby revoked) upon the following provisions and conditions:

“1. That the United States shall not under any circumstances be required or expected to buy any structure or building erected upon said tract of land under the authority of this license.

"2. That any sum which may have to be expended after revocation of this license, in putting any premises or property, hereby authorized or used, in a good condition for use by the United States as it is at this date shall be repaid by said license or licensee."

The lease was not finally approved by both parties until June 27, 1889.

The cornerstone of the new church was laid August 18, 1889, by Bishop Fink. There were many present, including a large number of priests from throughout the diocese. The dedication took place December 22d of the same year and was an event of unusual church interest in the post.

The new edifice is of Gothic design and comports favorably with the buildings surrounding it. The rectory is a part of the main building. It is composed of a suite of eight rooms, furnished with all modern conveniences. A large hall is fitted up in the basement for social church functions.

Fine stained glass windows donated by friends to the memory of the following have been placed in the church:

Right Reverend John B. Miege, S.J., by Reverend Ambrose Butler. \*

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\* The placing of this memorial window in the new chapel by Father Butler to his superior and almost life long friend is accounted for by the following from a "History of the Sisters of Charity of Leavenworth" giving an account of the departure of Bishop Miege, upon resigning his charge of the diocese. The bishop did not wish to meet any of his priests or the sisters of charity who had labored with him so loyally. He only informed the clergy of his purpose the day before he set for his departure and this is what the author of the history says:

"His surprise must have been great, when he arrived at the depot to take the train, to see Father Butler, then stationed at Hoge (Leavenworth county), come rushing up with hat in

Mrs. Ellen Ewing Sherman\*, "Her children have risen up and called her blessed."

"General Phil. Sheridan, Requiescat in pace."

"Lieutenant-Colonel Brotherton†," by Major M. R. Morgan, U. S. A.

hand vigorously fanning himself, for he had no sooner received the bishop's letter than, without a moment's delay, he threw himself into a train that came along just at the desired time. The poor bishop was much overcome. He had devoutly wished to avoid saying 'farewell' to his priests, to whom he was attached by many and strong ties of friendship, regard, gratitude, and ardent brotherly love. Father Butler afterwards congratulated himself that he was so fortunate as to obtain this last interview with his bishop, who had received him into his diocese as a young priest, and who had been to him a father and a friend."

Father Butler was invited to be present at the dedication of the church, which he had served so faithfully at Fort Leavenworth. He was forced to decline and in his letter of regret furnished the following reminiscences concerning his former charge:

"Many years have passed over since I first visited the post, sometimes with Father McNeil, in 1867 and 1868, sometimes with Father Panken and others, but the happiest days and evenings were passed in the little frame chapel when I had charge, and when General Miles and General Williams showed their polite conduct to me. Custer's Cavalry, wild fellows that they were, had always a welcome beaming on their faces for me, and poor Captain Keogh and Captain Nolan showed the strength of their faith. But better and braver in the cause of the holy church was good Sergeant Kelly for whom I shall always cherish a deep and faithful regard. Nor can I close without referring with genuine admiration to the beautiful and exemplary character developed by General Morgan during his last years at Fort Leavenworth. I hope you will meet with a spiritual success in all your efforts which your great zeal deserves. There are many hearts brave in God's cause, beating under the blue of Uncle Sam's uniform."

\*The wife of the late General William Tecumseh Sherman, U. S. Army.

†Lieutenant-Colonel David H. Brotherton. This officer was stationed at Fort Leavenworth for a number of years, while a



"Genevieve," a votive offering by Lieutenant and Mrs. W. H. Johnston\*, U. S. A.

"Colonel George Gibson, Requiescat in pace."

"Right Rev. James O'Reilly," by the people of Kickapoo.

"Right Rev. Charles J. White," by General Thomas M. Vincent†, U. S. A.

"In honor of General Alexander McDowell McCook."‡

Captain in the Fifth Infantry. Major Michael R. Morgan, of the Subsistence Department of the Army, was stationed at the post at the same time serving on General Pope's staff. There was a close intimacy between these two officers, and the window was placed in the new chapel, after its dedication, in memory to a devoted friend and brother officer. Colonel Brotherton died September 17, 1889.

\*Now Lieutenant-Colonel W. H. Johnston, U. S. Army.

†General Vincent was for many years an officer of the Adjutant General's Department.

‡ An incident worthy of note followed the ceremony of dedication. It was the presentation of a handsome sword to General A. McD. McCook, who, as commanding officer of the post, rendered material aid in the negotiations for the purchase of the old church building and the procurement of authority for a new site.

His Eminence, Cardinal Gibbons, authorized the use of his name in connection with that of Right Rev. Bishop Fink in the presentation of the sword.

General McCook, early in his career as an officer, had shown by his conduct his support of the Catholic clergy in the Far West, as well as toward every institution of charity. It is told that when a young lieutenant he stood by the then Right Rev. Bishop Lamy, of New Mexico, in an hour of imminent peril. While stationed at Santa Fé he discovered a plot having for its end the assassination of the new bishop. He at once ordered his men to stand guard near the episcopal residence while he himself remained with the bishop till far in the night, and thus for several evenings awed the mob until the plot was finally abandoned.

When stationed near Salt Lake City he found the Sisters of the Holy Cross greatly hampered by the Mormons, being

The financial history of the Fort Leavenworth mission shows that from 1870 to 1890, there had been received from all sources, including the sum of \$11,000 paid by the government for the old church, \$35,172.72.

The original contract for the new church called for \$10,707.00. Extras and the additional cost of the priest's house and school building brought the total to \$15,233.85.

The income to May 1, 1890, with which to meet the cost of the new church including the \$11,000 received from the Government was \$13,090.07 leaving upon the church a debt of \$2,143.78.

By December 31, 1891, Father Kinsella, through efforts at collecting and lecturing at other points succeeded in further reducing the debt and upon his transfer to Horton parish in January, 1892, assumed all of the remaining indebtedness excepting \$500. In 1895 he was appointed Chaplain of the Soldiers' Home at Leavenworth which enabled him to meet this obligation. Aside from the \$1300 of which the obligation consisted it did not include \$300 paid for the organ of St. Ignatius chapel.

These are some of the personal sacrifices made by Father Kinsella which were known only to the bishop and a few of his intimate friends.

Quite recently Father Kinsella resigned his post as chaplain of the Soldier's Home at Danville, Ill., to which he had in the mean time been transferred and returned to the Leavenworth diocese placing his services at the disposal of its bishop, Right Rev. John D. Ward. An assignment as pastor of Sacred Heart church in Leavenworth followed.

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unable to obtain the city water for their new hospital. The General, hearing of it, ordered his men to run the pipes from the Fort Douglass reservoir down to the city and into the hospital, thus conferring a very great favor on these Sisters.

Rev. Father Jennings, the youngest son of a Leavenworth citizen, came here from Horton to relieve Father Kinsella remaining until April 18, 1895, being in turn relieved by Rev. Father McCaul.

Father McCaul administered the affairs of the mission for more than ten years remaining in this field to November 12, 1905. The congregation suffered greatly in numbers on account of the Spanish-American war. Despite this reduction Father McCaul managed to relieve the church of its remaining indebtedness of five hundred dollars. He continued in the performance of his ministerial duties at post and federal prison. He was the first of the clergymen to receive an annual salary of \$300 from the federal prison where his good offices were much appreciated. This financial assistance came as a silver lining to the dark and lowering clouds, threatening to envelop a religious charge which had been given life and reared under most trying and many adverse conditions.

Rev. Father William Ospital, O.S.B., followed Father McCaul, remaining until August 27, 1906, when the present incumbent Rev. Father J. M. Dougherty, O.S.B., assumed charge.

The congregation was never more prosperous than at this time. It has increased largely in membership. Father Dougherty has done much to improve the church building both within and without through the devoted and loyal assistance rendered by the Altar Society of which mention will follow.

The little parish of Fort Leavenworth had the distinguished honor of a visit from Cardinal Satolli in 1896. Colonel Hawkins, 20th Infantry, desired to tender the Pope's personal representative a review of the troops, but owing to the brief time at his disposal the cardinal was forced to decline the honor with sincere regret.



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## Division Eight

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Fort Leavenworth Altar Societies

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## CHAPTER XII

### ALTAR SOCIETIES AT POST HAVE DONE MUCH FOR BOTH CHAPELS—ALTAR GUILD

**A** RMY chaplains, serving at military stations, have ever experienced more or less difficulty in securing the means with which to obtain the necessary paraphernalia for an appropriate observation of church ceremonies, a condition which applies, with even greater force, to the Catholic chaplain, who is supported entirely by the liberality of his congregation.

To meet this want two altar societies, organized in recent years, have done much to furnish both churches with the necessary paraphernalia and according to the records have fully justified their existence.

One of these societies is known as the "Altar Guild" and represents the worshipers in the post chapel (Protestant); the other bears the name of "St. Ignatius Chapel Altar Society" and represents the worshipers of the Catholic chapel.

That much has already been accomplished by the Altar Guild, its annual reports indicate and follow in full, that the Guild may tell the story of its accomplishments in its own way.

The first report is that of Mrs. S. B. Arnold:

FORT LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS,

*June 5, 1909.*

TO THE POST CHAPLAIN

*and members of the Garrison:*

As President of the Altar Guild I wish to submit the following report of the Guild for the past year,

prefaced by a few remarks in regard to the events which led to its organization which seem necessary in order to explain its work.

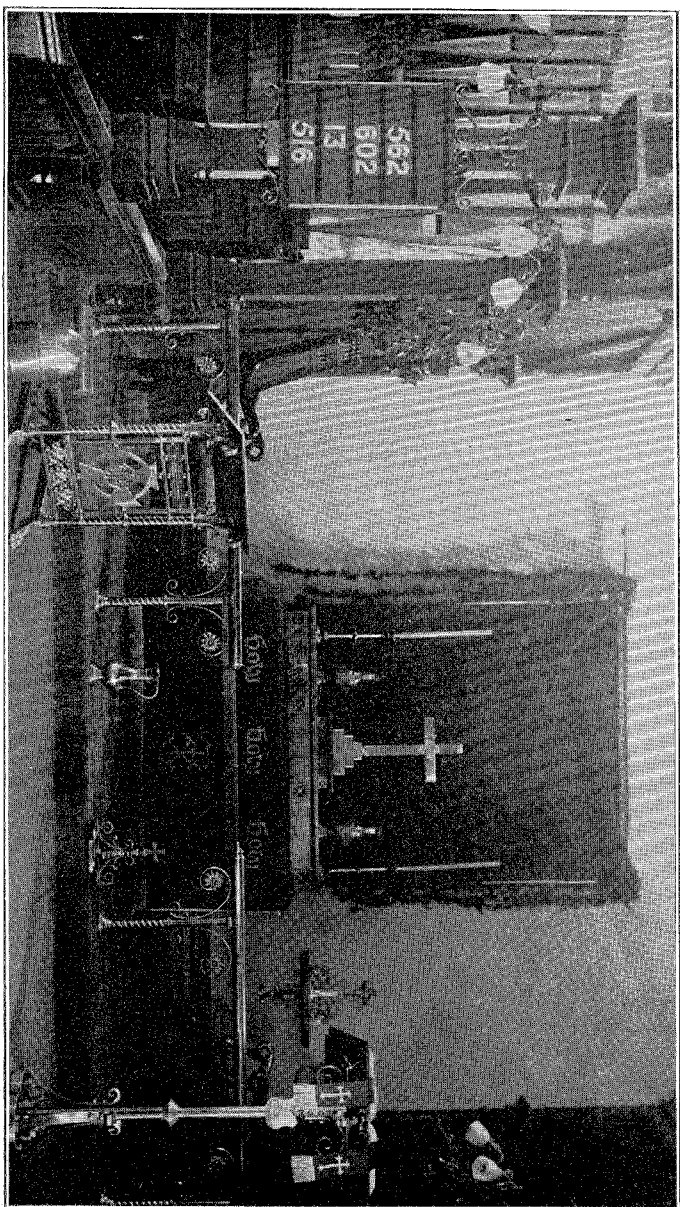
In the absence of a regular Post Chaplain—in February, 1908—the Chapel came under the voluntary charge of Chaplain H. Percy Silver, the Episcopal Chaplain on duty at the Military Prison. Through his efforts, the Chapel was put in thorough order; the Chapel itself, carpet and all tablets and brasses thoroughly cleaned; the Font removed to its proper position at the entrance of the Chapel, where a proper setting was made for it; an Altar arranged; numerous gifts and memorials were donated to beautify the Chapel, and the interest of a number of the women aroused in that part of church work which is distinctly their province.

The Chapel being entirely without hangings and linens, this, the first Guild work, was undertaken by Mrs. Charles D. Rhodes, who, with some assistance from a few of the women of the Post, made a complete set of white and green hangings, with book markers for each and some linens, and for several months she, and the Misses Hall, did all the necessary work about the Altar.

As the property of the Chapel increased, it seemed advisable to have some regular organization to see that this property was properly cared for, and to continue the work already started.

To this end a meeting was called of those women most interested, at which Chaplain Silver presided, and the details of such an organization was arranged. At a subsequent meeting, on June 29, 1908, the Guild was organized under the name of the Altar Guild of the Post Chapel, and certain regulations adopted, the object of the Guild, as stated therein, being:—"to care for the Altar and all things pertaining thereto; to provide flowers for the Altar, and to hold as cus-





ALTAR OF THE PRESENT POST CHAPEL



todians all gifts and memorials, and to be responsible for their proper use and care."

It is intended that the Guild shall be self-perpetuating—doing the work of the chapel at all times according to the wishes of the chaplain in charge. Members may be of any denomination.

The original Guild consisted of nine members:

Mrs. Charles D. Rhodes	Mrs. Marie L. Snyder
Mrs. George E. Stockle	Mrs. E. R. Gibson
Miss Happersett	Mrs. LeRoy Eltinge
Mrs. L. R. Arnold	Mrs. J. C. Raymond
Mrs. O. L. Spaulding	

of whom Mrs. Arnold was elected president and Mrs. Eltinge, secretary and treasurer.

During the summer the work of the Guild was limited, owing to the absence of most of the members, but those remaining attended to all services, and the 1st of September the regular work was begun, Chaplain Silver formally turning over to the care of the Guild the following gifts and memorials:

PRESENTED BY

Brass Cross . . . .	3d Squadron, 13th Cavalry
Brass Book Rest . .	3d Squadron, 13th Cavalry
Altar Prayer Book .	3d Squadron, 13th Cavalry
Brass Vases . . . .	13th Infantry
Brass Altar Rail . .	Staff Class—Class of 1908
Brass Prayer Desk .	Faculty and Line Class of 1908
Brass Lecturn . . .	Mrs. Charles McK. Saltzman
Credence Table. . .	Mrs. L. R. Arnold
Font Cover . . . .	Fort Leavenworth Branch of Woman's Auxiliary, Easter, 1908.
Bible . . . . .	Sunday School, Easter, 1908
Altar Hangings, Prayer Books and Hymnals.	

To which have since been added:

Prayer Book . . . .	Sunday School
Candlesticks . . . .	Sunday School, Easter, 1909
Font Ewer . . . . .	Fort Leavenworth Branch of Woman's Auxiliary, Easter, 1909

In October, Chaplain Henry Swift took charge of the chapel, since which time all work has been done by his authority and with his approval, while the Guild also continued to assist Chaplain Silver as much as possible with his work at the prison as long as he remained in the post.

Regular monthly meetings have been held, at which the Secretary and Treasurer's reports have been read, subjects of interest to church people have been discussed and all arrangements for work have been made.

During the past year this work has consisted of the care of the altar, sacred vessels, linens and memorials, the furnishing of flowers and candles for the altar, the attendance of some member at all services, the entire care and cleaning of the chancel, a general supervision of the cleaning of the chapel and the refurnishing of the vestry room.

For convenience in the vestry room the Guild furnished: A washstand, for which Mrs. Pond donated a toilet set; a table; proper utensils for cleaning the sacred vessels; all cleaning implements and materials, and designed a book case with closets at each end for vestments and cleaning materials, and a chest with compartments for all linens, hangings and moveable brasses when not in use. These latter the quartermaster kindly had made.

At the suggestion of the Guild, which met with most cordial response, most of the flowers for the altar have been given as memorials by members of the post, they choosing their own dates. When not so donated the Guild has furnished them, so that the altar has never been without them on Sundays and feast days.

Until March, the services at the prison and post chapels were at such hours that the flowers could be

All flowers used on the altar are sent to the sick, usually to the Prison hospital.

## Purple hangings and book-markers

Complete set of linens, consisting of—

Credence cover

### Three purificators

Pall

Two vestry credence  
clothes Chalice veil

For Chaplain Swift:

One surplice and one stole

For Chaplain Silver:

One cassock, one stole, one set of altar linen like the above without the credence clothes, and two sets of book markers.

The mending and care of all vestments.

The Guild wishes to take this opportunity of acknowledging with thanks, the bag for carrying the linens, made and donated by Miss Mary Stockle, and the special Easter donations which enabled them to get the materials for the red hangings and a few necessary articles for the vestry room.

Vacancies have been created by the resignations of Mrs. Rhodes and Mrs. Raymond, owing to their departure from the post, and of Mrs. Snyder and Miss Happersett. These have been filled by Mrs. R. J. Burt, Miss Mary Fuller, Mrs. F. L. Munson, and Mrs. Charles Gerhardt, while there are at present

two associate members, Mrs. G. P. Pond and Mrs. A. W. Bjornstad, there being allowed three associate members, from which vacancies in the regular Guild are filled.

Enclosed please find Treasurer's Report of receipts and expenditures.

LUCILLE R. ARNOLD,  
*President.*

Owing to changes in station of officers and with these, the departure of their families, the Guild has likewise had many changes in its membership, but arriving families have made possible the filling of such vacancies. The work has been followed up with an interest that speaks highly of the army woman, and gives evidence that she is everywhere ready to assist where good can be accomplished.

The Guild's second annual report presents an account of what it accomplished during the year covered by the report. It is as follows:

FORT LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS,

*June 1, 1911.*

TO THE POST CHAPLAIN  
*and Members of the Garrison:*

As President of the Altar Guild I wish to submit the following report of the Guild for the past year:

At the last meeting of the Guild last year the election of officers was held. Mrs. Munson was elected President and Mrs. Eltinge Secretary and Treasurer. The membership during the year has been as follows:

#### ACTIVE MEMBERS

Mrs. LeRoy Eltinge	Mrs. Oliver Edwards
Mrs. H. D. Wise	Mrs. P.A. Wolf
Mrs. F. W. VanDuyne	Mrs. W. M. Cruikshank
Miss Elliott	Miss Mary Fuller
Mrs. F. L. Munson	

NON-ACTIVE MEMBERS

Mrs. L. R. Arnold	Mrs. E. R. Gibson
Mrs. E. N. Jones	Mrs. A. W. Bjornstad
Mrs. O. L. Spaulding	Mrs. J. C. Raymond

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

Mrs. J. F. Clapham	Mrs. C. R. Day
Mrs. A. G. Lott	

During the year the regular work of the Guild, consisting of the entire care of the chancel and memorials, the furnishing of candles and flowers for the Altar, general supervision of the cleaning of the Chapel and attendance of some members at each service, has been attended to.

The Guild has provided flowers for the Altar at all times when they have not been presented as memorials, and wishes to thank General Funston for the many he sent from his garden during the summer.

The Guild also wishes to acknowledge the \$15.00 given from the church fund for the Christmas decorations.

The needle work during the year has been a set of linens which the Guild sent to a mission in Kansas City, Kansas. It consisted of

Fair linen cloth	Linen veil
Pall	Chalice veil
Burse	Corporale

Purificator

The Guild provided a suitable floor covering of cork linoleum for the vestibule of the chapel.

The following gifts have been presented to the Post Chapel during the year:

Alms-box, presented by Class of '11, Army Staff College.

Silver Chalice and Paten, presented by members of the Altar Guild of the Post Chapel.

The wine and wafers used during the year were

given by Mrs. L. R. Arnold.

Regular monthly meetings have been held at which the Secretary and Treasurer's reports have been read and the work of the Guild planned.

Enclosed please find Treasurer's report of receipts and expenditures.

ATHLEEN L. MUNSON,  
*Secretary.*

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FORT LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS

*May 29, 1911.*

TO THE PRESIDENT AND LADIES

*of the Altar Guild of the Post Chapel:*

I have the honor to report that during the past fiscal year the following sums of money have been received and expended by me:

Dues, fines and funds for chalice	\$ 76.51
Memorial Flowers	37.00
For Altar, bread and wine	5.00
Total - - - - -	<u>\$118.51</u>

The followings sums have been expended:

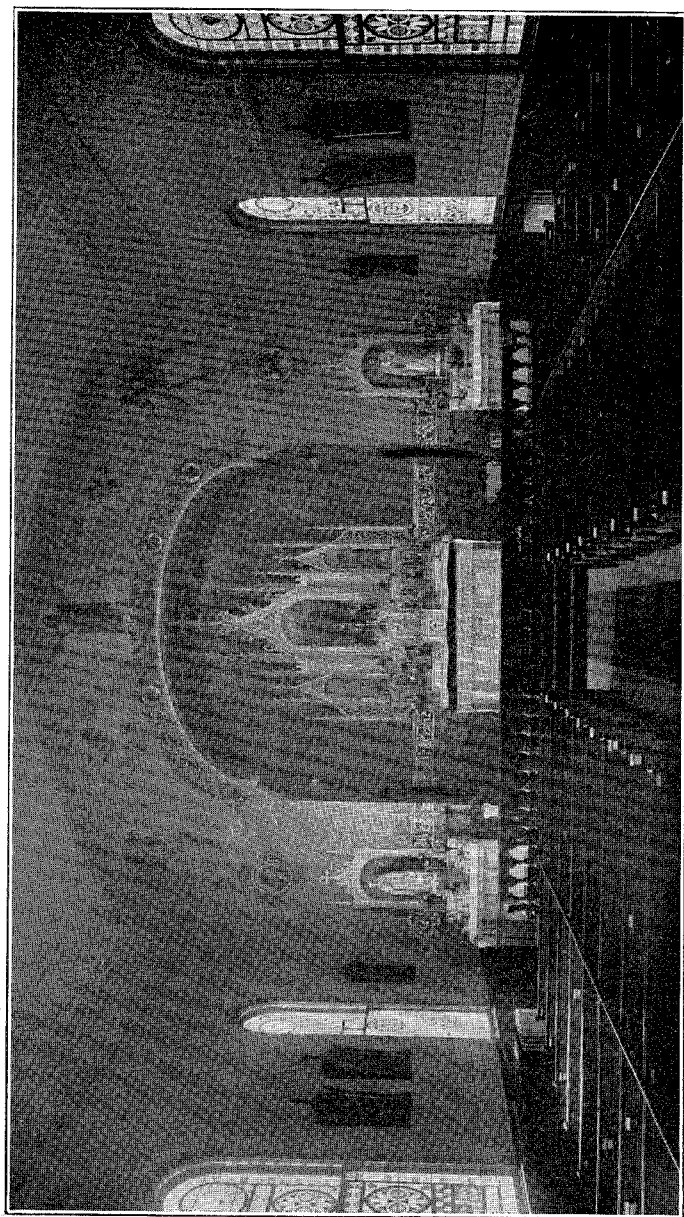
For Chalice and Paten	\$ 36.56
Linen Communion Set	5.90
Flowers	36.60
Altar Bread	2.05
Service	13.00
Sundries	7.15
Linoleum for Vestibule	9.00
Total - - - - -	<u>\$110.26</u>
Balance on hand	\$8.25

Respectfully submitted,

EFFIE TROTTER ELTINGE,  
*Secretary and Treasurer.*







INTERIOR OF ST. IGNATIUS CHAPEL